

In the Claims

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings of the claims.

1. (Currently amended) A corner block for use in a retaining wall, the corner block comprising:

a block body having, when the block body is laid up in a retaining wall in its intended orientation, opposed side surfaces, opposed end surfaces, a top surface having a texture, and a bottom surface, at least one of said side surfaces and one of said end surfaces being textured, the degree of texturing of the side surface and the end surface being greater than the degree of texturing of the top surface; and

a channel formed in said top surface for receiving a portion of an elongated retaining member, said channel having a longitudinal axis extending parallel to said side surfaces, said channel further including an open end that extends through one of said end surfaces and a closed end that terminates short of the opposite said end surface, and said channel being defined by at least a front wall, a rear wall opposite the front wall, and a bottom wall, said channel has a depth adjacent said rear wall that is greater than a depth of said channel adjacent said front wall, and wherein said channel is sized to receive therein the portion of the elongated retaining member extending parallel to the longitudinal axis of said channel with no portion of the elongated retaining member projecting above said top surface.

2. (Previously presented) A corner block according to claim 1, wherein said front and rear walls of said channel diverge from the bottom of said channel to the top of said channel, whereby said channel has an increasing width from bottom to top.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) A wall structure having an exterior corner constructed from a plurality of corner blocks of claim 1.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) ~~A retaining wall according to claim 8, wherein, for each course, the first and second subcourses~~ A retaining wall, comprising:

a first plurality of concrete blocks and a second plurality of concrete blocks arranged into courses, the first plurality of blocks defining an exterior corner of the wall and the second plurality of blocks being arranged side-by-side and atop one another to define a wall portion adjacent the exterior corner, wherein each block of the second plurality of blocks has a first height that defines the height of each course, and the blocks of the first plurality of blocks each have a second height that is less than the first height,

wherein the exterior corner of each course is formed by a plurality of subcourse blocks of the first plurality of blocks, and for each course the subcourse blocks are arranged into first and second subcourses that have a combined height that is substantially equal to the first height.

10. (Previously presented) A retaining wall, comprising:

a plurality of courses, each course comprises a first plurality of blocks forming an exterior corner portion and a second plurality of blocks forming a wall portion adjacent the exterior corner portion, each block of said first plurality of blocks and said second plurality of blocks including a channel formed in a top surface thereof;

wherein, for each course, each block of said second plurality of blocks has a first height that defines the height of the course and each block of said first plurality of blocks has a second height that is less than the first height; and

a reinforcement member retaining bar disposed within the channels in said second plurality of blocks, and at least a portion of said retaining bar being disposed within the channel of at least one block of the first plurality of blocks.

11. (Original) A retaining wall according to claim 10, further including a reinforcement member secured to said second plurality of blocks by said retaining bar, said reinforcement member extending into said channels of said second plurality of blocks.

12. (Original) A retaining wall according to claim 10, wherein the channels of said second plurality of blocks are aligned with the channel of the one block of said first plurality of blocks.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) A retaining wall according to claim 10, wherein, for each course, the blocks of said first plurality of blocks are arranged into first and second subcourses, and the combined height of said first and second subcourses substantially equals the first height.

15. (Previously presented) A corner block according to claim 1, wherein the channel is positioned closer to one of the side surfaces than it is to the other side surface.

16. (Previously presented) A corner block according to claim 1, wherein the side surfaces are generally parallel to each other.

17. (Previously presented) A corner block according to claim 16, wherein the end surfaces are generally parallel to each other.

18. (Previously presented) A corner block according to claim 17, wherein the top and bottom surfaces are generally parallel to each other.

19. (Previously presented) A retaining wall, comprising:

a first plurality of blocks and a second plurality of blocks arranged into courses, the first plurality of blocks defining an exterior corner of the wall and the second plurality of blocks defining a wall portion adjacent the exterior corner, wherein each block of the second plurality of blocks has a first height that defines the height of each course, and the blocks of the first plurality of blocks each have a second height that is less than the first height,

wherein the exterior corner of each course is formed by a plurality of subcourse blocks of the first plurality of blocks, and for each course, the subcourse blocks are arranged into first and second subcourses and the first and second subcourses have a combined height that is substantially equal to the first height.